

Classification of Personality Disorders: Perceived Clinical Utility of ICD-10 versus ICD-11

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BACKGROUND

- The forthcoming ICD-11 includes new diagnostic guidelines for Personality Disorders (PD), which involve classification of PD Severity (Mild, Moderate, Severe) along with five trait qualifiers and the option of specifying a “borderline pattern” (see example in right column).
- Danish health care is expected to adopt the ICD-11 classification system in 2020-2023.
- WHO emphasizes that classification of ICD-11 PDs must be usable and useful for health care workers who are not highly trained specialists – across all WHO member countries.

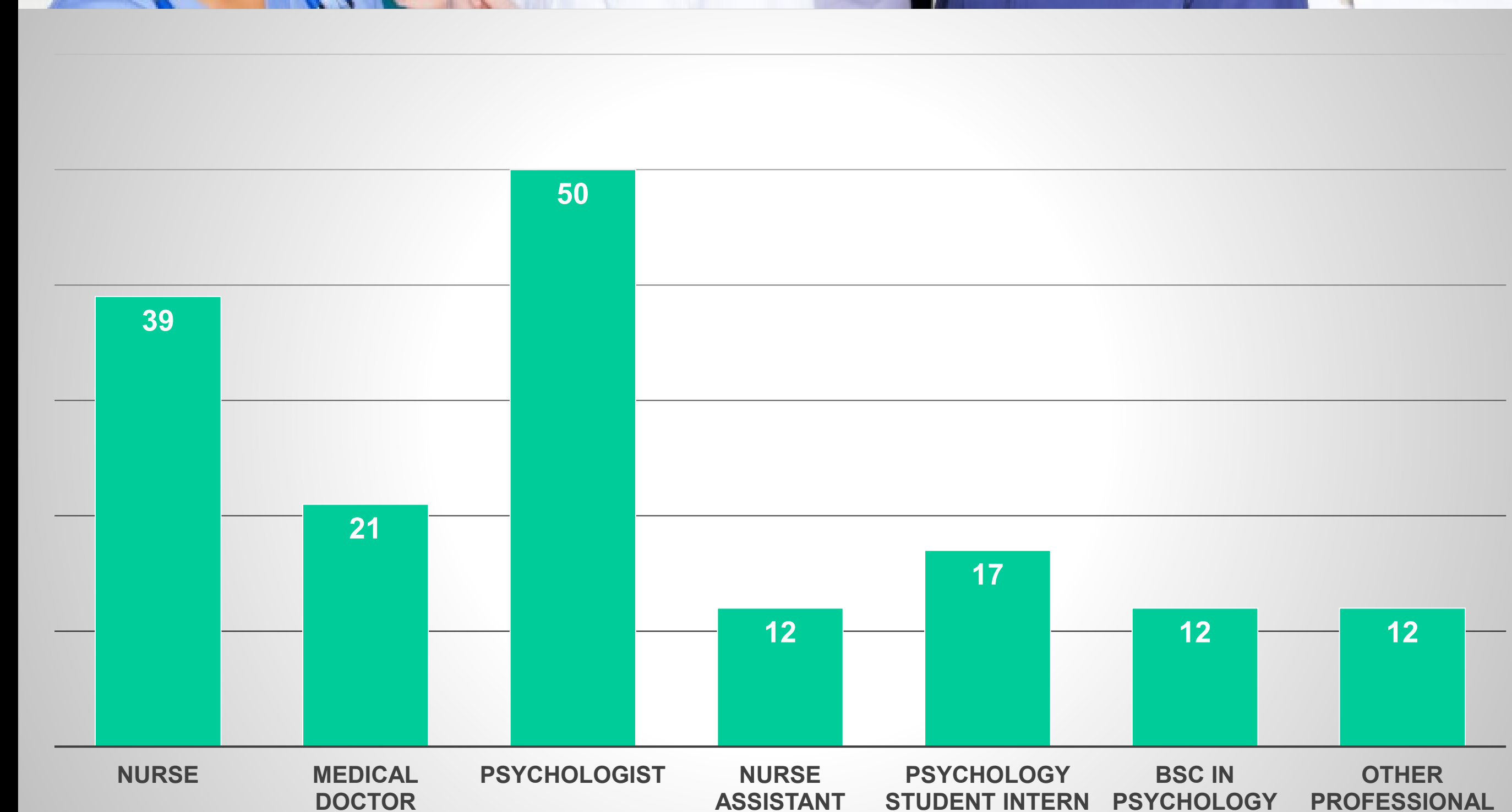
AIM

To evaluate the perceived clinical utility of ICD-11 Classification of PDs in comparison to the established ICD-10 approach – as judged by mental health professionals with different levels of expertise and clinical experience.

SURVEY

We conducted a survey among professionals ($N = 163$) recruited from Danish mental health care and universities. Years of clinical experience ranged from 0-40 years with a mean of 11.50 (SD = 11.23).

Participants were asked to judge the clinical utility of the ICD-11 versus ICD-10 models. For this purpose they were asked to use a particular case from their own clinical experience.



Summary of survey participants' professional backgrounds

FINDINGS

Overall, the ICD-11 approach achieved significantly higher ratings of perceived clinical utility than the ICD-10 approach. However, this did not apply to “communication with other professionals”, which was not significantly better or worse than the ICD-10.

- For the subgroup of *medical doctors*, the ICD-11 approach was only rated as superior in regard to “formulating an effective intervention”, whereas the remaining domains showed no significant differences.
- For the subgroup of *psychologists*, the ICD-11 approach was rated as superior in regard to “ease of use” and “formulating an effective intervention”, whereas the remaining domains showed no significant differences.

NONE <input type="checkbox"/>	DIFFICULTY <input type="checkbox"/>	MILD <input type="checkbox"/>	MODERATE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEVERE <input type="checkbox"/>	PERSONALITY DISORDER SEVERITY
NEGATIVE AFFECTIVITY <input type="checkbox"/>	DETACHMENT <input type="checkbox"/>	DISSOCIALITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DISINHIBITION <input type="checkbox"/>	ANANKASTIA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PROMINENT DOMAIN FEATURES

Example of ICD-11 Classification of Personality Disorders

Domains of clinical utility	ICD-10	ICD-11	Cohen's d
1. Ease of Use	3.09 (0.74)	3.26 (0.74)	0.23*
2. Communication with other professionals	3.07 (0.78)	3.19 (0.73)	0.15
3. Communication with the patient	2.71 (0.94)	2.96 (0.94)	0.27**
4. Describing all important personality problems	2.68 (0.87)	2.90 (0.87)	0.25**
5. Utility for formulating an effective intervention	2.74 (0.89)	3.00 (0.80)	0.31**
6. Utility for describing global personality	2.87 (0.85)	3.01 (0.86)	0.16
Overall utility score	2.86 (0.66)	3.05 (0.69)	0.28**

N=163; data are presented as Mean (Standard Deviation)
Statistical significance is calculated with t-test; **p<0.01 *p<0.05
Each domain was rated on a 5-point scale from 1 (“not at all useful”) to 5 (“extremely useful”).

CONCLUSIONS

This preliminary survey suggests that the forthcoming ICD-11 classification of personality disorders has some favorable appeal for mental health professionals in Denmark, including nurses, nurse assistants, medical doctors, and psychologists; particularly in terms of “formulating an effective intervention”.